

ODATE: 2/19/25 FILE: DATE637
TO: Cherokee County Council
SUBJECT: "AMENDED" Minutes of PH & Regular Meeting, 2/18/25

There was a Public Hearing & Regular Meeting Tuesday, 2/18/25, at 5 PM in Council Chambers. Vice-Chairman David Smith presided with Bill Blanton leading in prayer. All council members were present except Tim Spencer who was absent. Administrator Bishop, Asst. Admin. Kristy Bradley, Attorney Joe Mathis and Master Clerk Doris Pearson were present. The news media was informed by agenda and it was posted in accordance with the SCFOIA. Two news media were present along with 35+ visitors.

Councilman Tracy McDaniel made the motion to adopt the agenda of the PH & Regular Meeting Tuesday, 2/18/25 as received and posted in accordance with the SCFOIA. Billy Blanton seconded and council voted in favor.

Councilman Tracy McDaniel made the motion to approve the minutes of the PH & Regular Meeting of 2/3/25 as received. Donnie Hardin seconded and council voted in favor.

Councilman Donnie Hardin made the motion to approve the claims for Cherokee County in the amount of \$813,295.24. Tracy McDaniel seconded and council voted in favor.

Cherokee Co. Development Board Director Ken Moon gave the 2024 Annual Report. He recognized County Council, the Development Board Staff & Board Members and the partners. He stated that 2024 started off with a challenge but ended up being one of the best years for capital investments. Our first major announcement of the year was the \$600,000 expansion of Just in Time Manufacturing (JIT); AZZ Galvanizing announced a \$400,000 expansion to upgrade equipment at their state-of-the art facility on Tribal Road in Blacksburg; Wrestore Technology LLC announced the acquisition of the former Timken facility with a capital investment of \$168 million to establish a battery component mfg. plant. Nestle announced a \$150 million expansion; this expansion brings their 5-year investment to well over \$500 million for Cherokee County. (a copy of his report is attached)

CPA Ben Kochenower reported on the Financial Statements & Schedules Year Ended 6/30/24 for Cherokee County General Fund. We looked at the internal control over financial reporting and on compliance & other matters based on an audit of financial statements performed in accordance with government auditing standards. We audited each major federal program and the internal control over compliance & report on schedule of expenditures of federal awards required by the Uniform guidance. There were no findings relating to the financial statements; no findings or questions related to costs related to federal awards. We gave our unmodified opinion. You complied your budget with the revenues on the conservative side coming in over what you anticipated, which was good. You came within a 1/3rd or 1% of your \$33 million budget paying close attention not to exceed it but you did come very close. Cherokee County is a very big business with the other departments that you had to budget for such as the Sheriff Dept., Landfill, 911, Voter Registration/Election, COC/Solicitor/Family Court and

General Sessions, Magistrate Offices, R&B, Code Enforcement, Animal Control, Coroner, Development Board, Probate Court, Register of Deeds, Tax Assessor, Auditor, Treasurer, Delinquent Tax Office, etc. that you have to oversee. Your Administration, Treasurer, Finance, and other Dept. Heads work together well and work well with me and my staff in conducting the audit and if I thought they were lying to me or keeping something from me, then I would investigate but you have a very honest professional group of people within the county government.

Vice-Chairman David Smith opened the public hearing on Ordinance No. 2025-01 authorizing the Lease of County Property to the Cherokee County School District. No one was present to speak and the public hearing was closed.

Councilman Donnie Hardin made the motion to adopt 1st Reading of Ordinance No. 2025-02 authorizing the purchase of Real Property, North Petty St., by Cherokee County. Tracy McDaniel seconded. Elliott Hughes asked council to hold off on the vote until Chairman Spencer would be present. Administrator Bishop replied that his would be just the 1st Reading and there would be 2 more readings as well as the public hearing. This property is owned by Trent Pruitt, is ~~2.56~~ .0546 (corrected 3/17/25) acres and the price is \$529,400 which would be paid from the contingency fund. **Voting in favor of the motion: Donnie Hardin, Billy Blanton, Tracy McDaniel and David Smith; opposed Elliott Hughes & Teresa Bonner. Motion carried.**

Councilman Tracy McDaniel made the motion to adopt 1st Reading of Ordinance No. 2025-03 authorizing the purchase of Real Property, East Floyd Baker Blvd., by Cherokee Co. Donnie Hardin seconded. Administrator Bishop reported that this is the Fulton Ross Law Office and we will be moving the Public Defender in that building. It will cost \$415,000 and will be paid from the contingency fund. **Voting in favor: Billy Blanton, Donnie Hardin, Tracy McDaniel & David Smith. Opposed: Elliott Hughes & Teresa Bonner. Teresa stated the reason she voted no is that she has not been able to see or tour the building. Motion carried.**

Councilman Tracy McDaniel made the motion to award Bid No. 2025-14 Repainting the Kitchen Area at the CCDC to CertaPro Painters of Sptg. for \$30,000 to be paid from the capital contingency fund. Donnie Hardin seconded and council voted in favor. Administrator Bishop reported that DHEC is requiring that we clean & paint all the walls in the kitchen with industrial grade paint suitable for an industrial kitchen setting.

Administrator Merv Bishop opened Bid No. 2025-18 Roof Replacement at the Cherokee Co. Law Enforcement Center. 13 bids were received: 1) Land Roofing Co. - \$424,550; 2) Pickens Contracting, inc. - \$324,524; 3) DACH Enterprises - \$345,000; 4) Palmetto State Roofing & Sheet Metal - \$360,973; 5) Heritage Roofing co., Inc. - \$450,677.83; 6) Procraft Roofing - \$307,200; 7) AAR OF NC, Inc. - \$361,600; 8) ARC Inc. - \$725,000; 9) Standard Roofing Systems - \$348,548; 10) DK Mason Roofing - \$405,000; 11) J.A. Piper Roofing Co., Inc. - \$392,333; 12) Allcon of Greenville, Inc. - \$325,000; and 13) Cornerstone const. - \$398,288. Administration along with Sheriff Mueller and Building Main. Supervisor

Jimmy Pruitt will review these bids and report back to council with our recommendation at the meeting of 3/3/25.

Administrator Merv Bishop opened Bid No. 2025-19 Scrap Metal Bid at the Landfill. 4 bids were received: 1) BMP Construction - \$72/ton; 2) Metal Recycling Services - \$220/ton; 3) Allied of Sptg., LLC - \$140/ton; and 4) Southeast Recycling Group - \$166/ton. Administration along with Landfill Director Ronnie Benton will review these bids and report back to council with our recommendation at the meeting of 3/3/25.

Administrator Merv Bishop opened Bid No. 2025-20 Replacement of Ridge/Hip Caps at the Cherokee Co. Admin. Complex. 3 bids were received: 1) DACH Enterprises - \$25,000; 2) Standard roofing Systems - \$16,537.82; and 3) DK Mason Roofing - \$23,950. Administration along with Building Main. Supervisor Jimmy Pruitt will review these bids and report back to council with our recommendation on 3/3/25.

Administrator Merv Bishop reported that he & Kristy will begin meeting with Elected Officials & Dept. Heads regarding their budget request on Wed., 2/19/25, 9 am until 12-Noon and will meet until we have met with all Dept. Heads.

Asst. Admin. Kristy Bradley reported that Admin. has created a web policy that will be on the County Website this week to provide general guidelines as we become more active.

Asst. Admin. Kristy Bradley reported that Admin. will be presenting a new fee structure regarding FOIA requests and we will present this to council for 1st Reading at your next meeting in March.

Asst. Admin. Kristy Bradley reported that she will be leading a Department Head/Leadership Meeting/Workshop for all County Depts. tomorrow afternoon.

Councilman Tracy McDaniel made the motion to go into Executive Session at 5:51 PM regarding two matters: 1) Section 30-7-70(a)(2) the receipt of legal advice where the legal advice relates to a pending matter covered by the attorney-client privilege; and 2) Section 30-7-70(2)(5) discussion of matters relating to the proposed location, expansion, or the provision of services encouraging location or expansion of industries or other business in the area served by the public body specifically 1) Cold Blast and 2) Prime. Billy Blanton seconded and council voted in favor.

Councilman Tracy McDaniel made the motion for council to come out of Executive Session at 6:52 PM. Elliott Hughes seconded and council voted in favor. Attorney Mathis reported that no vote or action was taken during Executive Session.

As there was no other business to come before council at this time, Vice Chair David Smith adjourned the meeting at 6:53 PM.

Page 4 of 4 – Minutes of PH & Regular Meeting, 2/18/25

APPROVED: 3/3/25

Respectfully submitted,

BY ITS CHAIR: Tim Spencer

Doris F. Pearson, Master Clerk to Council

AMENDED APPROVED: 3/17/25